2026 Heroes of Tomorrow: UN SDG Action Awards

(Self-)Nomination Fields for the Changemaker Award Category

This document displays the 2026 Changemaker (self-)nomination fields for reference only. All applications and (self-)nominations are to be submitted via the official application portal available on the UN SDG Action Awards website: https://sdgactionawards.org/

Section 1: Eligibility

The **Changemaker Award** honours individuals leading collective action towards justice, equality, and peace.

Successful Changemakers demonstrate visionary leadership and the ability to make measurable, lasting impact within their communities and beyond.

Inspiring Examples:

Jîn Dawod (2025 Winner), a mental health visionary, who transformed her experience as a Syrian refugee into life-changing support for displaced communities across 26 countries.

Julienne Lusenge (2025 Winner), a human rights defender who supports thousands of survivors of gender-based violence, while advancing peacebuilding in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

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To be eligible, (self-)nominees must demonstrate proven, measurable results achieved within the past three years in alignment with the Changemaker category.

Changemaker's initiatives that are still in the planning or concept stages are not eligible, nor are Finalists or Winners from previous editions of the Awards.

Initiatives led by the United Nations are only eligible for an Honourable Mention.

☐	I confirm that the nominee meets the eligibility criteria.

Section 2: Contact Information

Information you provide in this section will not be visible to the public.

Nominator's surname(s):	
Nominator's given name(s):	
Nominator's email:	

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Is this a self-nomination?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of the nominated changemaker (for those who are not self-nominating): (if applicable)	

Email of the nominated changemaker (for those who are not self-nominating): (if applicable)	

If you are nominating a changemaker, how do you know them? (50 words max) (if applicable)

Section 3: General Information

Countries/territories where the nominated Changemaker is active:	

Cities where the nominated Changemaker is active:	

Links to the nominated Changemaker's social media profiles: (if applicable)	
Facebook:	
Instagram:	
LinkedIn:	
TikTok:	
X (formerly Twitter):	
YouTube:	

Link(s) to the nominated Changemaker's website(s): (in URL format)	

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How did you hear about the Heroes of Tomorrow: UN SDG Action Awards?	
☐	Newsletter from a network you are a part of
☐	Recommendation from a colleague/partner
☐	Social media
☐	UN SDG Action Campaign newsletter
☐	UN SDG Action Campaign website
☐	Other

If you answered "recommendation from a colleague/partner" or "other" to the previous question, please share the source (of the recommendation) with us: (if applicable)

Which of the SDGs does the nominated Changemaker's work focus on? (multi-select)	
☐	All SDGs
☐	SDG 1: No Poverty
☐	SDG 2: Zero Hunger
☐	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
☐	SDG 4: Quality Education
☐	SDG 5: Gender Equality
☐	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
☐	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
☐	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
☐	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
☐	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
☐	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
☐	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
☐	SDG 13: Climate Action
☐	SDG 14: Life Below Water
☐	SDG 15: Life on Land
☐	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
☐	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Has the nominated Changemaker already received awards and/or other recognitions?

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☐ Yes ☐ No

If you answered "yes" to the question above, please list all awards and/or recognitions received: (if applicable)

Section 4: Changemaker Overview

Disclaimer:

As part of the evaluation process, the UN SDG Action Campaign may contact the nominated Changemaker for an informal interview about their initiative.

Provide a brief overview of the nominated Changemaker's initiative, clearly outlining the problem(s) it addresses and the solution(s) it implements. (100 words max)

Will the nominated Changemaker be able to participate in the Finalist Induction Programme and attend the Heroes of Tomorrow: UN SDG Action Awards Ceremony in Rome, Italy on 28 and 29 October 2026, should they be selected as a Finalist? Please note that travel and accommodation costs for Finalists will be covered by the UN SDG Action Campaign.
☐ Yes ☐ No

Bio: Please provide a short professional bio of the nominated Changemaker. (200 words max)

Headshot: Please upload a high-resolution headshot of the nominated Changemaker. (.jpg or .png, minimum 1000px * 1000px)
Upload a file

Section 5: Review Criteria

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Impact:

Describe the measurable impact the nominated Changemaker has achieved so far.

Please include the following in your response:

- The outcomes of the nominated Changemaker's initiative.
- At least one quantitative result (e.g., number of people mobilized or supported, number of policies adopted, funds raised, improvements in social, economic, or environmental conditions).

(200 words max)

Scalability/Replicability:

Is there a plan to scale up or replicate the nominated Changemaker's initiative?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, describe any current or future plans to expand or replicate the nominated Changemaker's initiative.

Please include the approach and timeline.

(if applicable | 200 words max)

Novelty/Innovation:

Describe what makes the nominated Changemaker's initiative innovative.

Explain the specific idea, method, or approach that distinguishes it from existing efforts.

(200 words max)

Describe why the nominated Changemaker's initiative deserves to receive a Heroes of Tomorrow: UN SDG Action Award. (200 words max)

Section 6: High-Resolution Photo and Videos

To illustrate the work described in this (self-)nomination, please upload **5–10 high-resolution photos and/or videos** that show the nominated Changemaker's initiative in action and demonstrates its impact.

If selected as a Finalist, submitted materials may be used to create a short video compilation (approximately 1 minute) for communications and promotional purposes related to the Heroes of Tomorrow: UN SDG Action Awards.

Please select content that helps tell the story of the nominated Changemaker's initiative and brings their work to life. Submissions should illustrate the context, activities, and impact of the nominated Changemaker's initiative, capturing people, communities, and meaningful moments from implementation.

Footage Format:

Photos: HD quality, with a resolution of 1920 x 1080, .jpg/.png format
Videos: HD quality, with a resolution of 1920 x 1080, mp4 format, maximum duration of 10:00 minutes.

Requirements:

Photos and videos must NOT include any branding.

Files should be uploaded to an open file-sharing platform, such as Google Drive, with a viewable link that does not expire.

When sharing links, please provide the full URL.

By submitting photo and video footage, you confirm that the nominated Changemaker holds all applicable legal rights and permissions for all photo and video content uploaded as part of this (self-)nomination.



Minimum: 5 | Maximum: 10

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Section 7: High-Resolution Photo and Video Description

Please provide a description for each photo and video uploaded in the previous section. Descriptions should explain what is happening in the footage and how it relates to the nominated Changemaker's work and impact. (200 words max)

Photo and Video Copyright Disclaimer:

☐	I confirm that the nominated Changemaker holds all applicable legal rights and permissions for all photo and video content uploaded as part of this (self-)nomination.

Section 8: Supporting Documentation

Supporting Documentation: Please share links or upload articles, reference letters, social media feeds, and other public documentation that highlights the scope and the results of the nominated Changemaker's initiative.
Links:
File upload: Upload a file

Section 9: Terms and Conditions

I consent to my personal data being stored and processed for the purpose of the Heroes of Tomorrow: UN SDG Action Awards programme. The contents submitted in this form may be used for public promotion, however personal data will be protected. I also consent to my data being used by the UN SDG Action Campaign for establishing contact. I will be given the option to unsubscribe from future mailings unrelated to the Heroes of Tomorrow: UN SDG Action Awards. My data will not be used for commercial purposes. I may withdraw my consent to the use of my personal data at any time by contacting hello@sdgactioncampaign.org.	
☐	By submitting this form, I agree to the above-stated Terms and Conditions.

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